

Allowing further consolidation of media ownership as is being proposed would be a disaster for the Democracy of America.

Already, 2 of the only 3 local TV stations in my DMA are owned and programmed by the same entity, Clear Channel. They run virtually the same news programs with the same reporters. How can this possibly 'better serve the public interest' ?!?

With monster entities like Fox/News Corp and AOL/TimeWarner/Turner/CNN already controlling large distribution channels (as Fox is acquiring DirectTV and TimeWarner runs one of the major cable systems), the diversity of local programming is diminished.

Look at what's happened to Radio since the 1996 rulings... 2 companies, Clear Channel and Infinity Broadcasting, own nearly 80% of the radio stations nationally, and almost all of them play one of several canned pre-programmed formats... There is *NO* local content on most of these stations. Allowing a few large corporations to own and control both TV and Newspapers will result in a complete stranglehold on information distributions... What's good for these large corporations is likely NOT in the best public interest.

Thank you for your consideration.